

REMARKS

The Office Action dated January 13, 2005 has been carefully considered. Claims 1-20 are pending. The above amendments and the following remarks are presented in a sincere attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance. Claims 1-7, 10-12, and 19 have been amended, and Claim 20 has been added in this Response. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and following remarks.

An interview was held with the Examiner, Ms. Margaret R. Wambach, on March 14, 2005, to discuss the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and the proposed amendments thereto. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for her time and the courtesies extended.

Applicants respectfully submit that the information disclosure statement does comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2). Specifically, no foreign patents are listed in the information disclosure statement, and therefore no hard copies of foreign patents were necessary. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of the information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) be withdrawn.

The specification stands objected to for failing to provider proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(d)(1). Specifically, the specification does not provide support for a comparator coupled to the input clock line as recited in Claims 11 and 12. Amended Claims 11 and 12 no longer claim a comparator coupled to the input clock line, but only describe a comparator coupled to the division selection line. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of the specification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(d)(1) be withdrawn.

Claim 10 stands objected to because of an informality. Accordingly, the language “the frequency divider” replaces the language “the frequency divider circuit” in amended Claim 10. Applicants respectfully request that the objection to Claim 10 be withdrawn.

Claims 1-12 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Insofar as these rejections may be applied against the amended claims, they are deemed overcome.

Claims 1-7, 10-12, and 19 are amended to provide clear antecedent basis. In Claims 1-12, “*an output*” replaces “the output” for the components of the present invention. In addition, the language “the comparator” replaces the language “the first comparator” in Claim 1. In Claims 4-6, “*a reset*” replaces “the reset.” Claim 7 is amended to substitute “*an enable terminal*” for “the enable.” Furthermore, in claim 10, “the first and second *synchronizers*” replaces “the first and second comparators.” In Claims 11-12, “*a first synchronizer*” and “*a frequency divider*” replace “the first synchronizer” and “the frequency divider,” respectively. Lastly, claim 19 is amended to substitute “*a first synchronizer*” for “the first synchronizer.” Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of Claim 1-12 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn and that amended Claims 1-12 and 19 be allowed.

In addition, Claim 20 is a new claim. Support for this claim can be found, among other places, page 4, lines 1-6 of the original Application. Applicants have now made an earnest attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of Claims 1-20.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are due; however, in the event that any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees due (other than issue fees), and to credit any overpayment made, in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-0605 of CARR LLP.

Should the Examiner deem that any further amendment is desirable to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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